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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **KITAJIMA, et al.**

Serial No.: 09/533,365

Group Art Unit: 2825

Filed: **March 22, 2000**

Examiner: **EVERHART, Caridad**

**FOR: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE WITH GOLD BUMPS, AND METHOD AND
APPARATUS OF PRODUCING THE SAME**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 9270

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: June 16, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 27, 2003, Applicants request favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application. Claims 32, 34, 35 and 37 are pending.

Claims 32, 34 and 35 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Katayama et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,410,881). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner characterizes Katayama et al. as disclosing an apparatus which includes a flux vessel and a molten-solder vessel. In this regard, the Examiner highlights column 8, lines 15-64 and column 9, lines 7-14 as well as column 7, lines 45-48. Presumably, the Examiner is also referring to Figs. 19 and 20 of Katayama et al.

However, Katayama et al. does not disclose "a flux vessel disposed in said booth" or "a molten-solder vessel arranged in said booth so that gold bump elements provided on the electrodes of a semiconductor element can be immersed in said vessel" as required by claim 32. Furthermore, claim 34 requires "a molten-solder vessel arranged so that gold bump elements

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provided on the electrodes of a semiconductor element can be immersed in said vessel" which is not taught or suggested by Katayama et al. The Examiner does not even comment on the support structure or hanging mechanism required by claim 34.

Accordingly, Katayama et al. fails to anticipate the claims. Favorable reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It appears that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 23, 2003 crossed in the mail with the Office Action. The Examiner is requested to return a copy of the Form PTO-1449 submitted with that Information Disclosure Statement showing consideration of the references cited therein.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Petition for Extension of Time

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